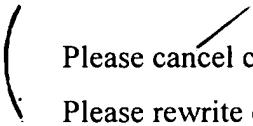


In the Claims

A complete set of claims is provided below, with amendments indicated by strikethrough text (for deletions) and underlining (for insertions). Please amend the claims as follows:

 Please cancel claims 1-12 and 16-30 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please rewrite claims 13, 31 and 32 as indicated below:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) A method for determining gastric cancer ~~or a related condition~~ in a sample patient, comprising,

assaying said a sample obtained from the patient for an antibody that specifically binds sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2, as a determination of the condition gastric cancer in said patient sample.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2 is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:19, 20, 21, and 22.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the antibody is assayed using sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2 or an antigenic fragment thereof.

16-30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently amended) A method for following progress of a therapeutic regime designed to alleviate gastric cancer ~~or a related condition~~, comprising:

(a) assaying a sample from a subject to determine level of a parameter selected from the group consisting of (i) a peptide derived from a sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2, (ii) a cytolytic T cell specific for cells presenting said peptide, and (iii) an antibody which specifically binds to said peptide of said protein, at a first time period;

Conf. No.: 6680

(b) assaying level of the parameter selected in (a) at a second period of time and comprising it to the level determined in (a) as a determination of effect of said therapeutic regime.

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32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 31, wherein the sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2 is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:19, 20, 21, and 22.

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